

WOMAN'S NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC CLUB
JANUARY 2010

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|-----------------|----------------------|----------------------------------|---|---|
| NO FOOD SERVICE | No Program Scheduled | Lunch Service 12:15 - 1:30 pm | No Program Scheduled | CLUB CLOSED New Year's Day |
| NO FOOD SERVICE | No Program Scheduled | Lunch Service 12:15 - 1:30 pm | SPEAKER LUNCHEON The Honorable Lisa Jackson <i>The New EPA A Breath of Fresh Air</i> Program Assoc. Cmte., 10:30 | Lunch Service 12:15 - 1:30 pm Enviro. & Energy TF 12:00 p.m. |
| NO FOOD SERVICE | No Program Scheduled | Lunch Service 12:15 - 1:30 pm | SPEAKER LUNCHEON Mark Shields <i>The Wit and Wisdom of Mark Shields</i> Membership Cmte. Mtg. 10:30 a.m. | Lunch Service 12:15 - 1:30 pm |
| NO FOOD SERVICE | No Program Scheduled | Lunch Service 12:15 - 1:30 pm | SPEAKER LUNCHEON Marvin Kalb <i>Grading Obama's First Year</i> | Lunch Service 12:15 - 1:30 pm |
| NO FOOD SERVICE | No Program Scheduled | Lunch Service 12:15 - 1:30 pm | SPEAKER LUNCHEON Judith "Miss Manners" and her daughter, Jacobina <i>Miss Manner's Guide to a Surprisingly Dignified Wedding</i> | Lunch Service 12:15 - 1:30 pm |
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We Hope You Had
A Wonderful Holiday
and
We Wish You a
Happy New Year!

Parking Garages
New Hampshire Ave.,
directly across from
WNDC
18th St. near Mass. Ave.
Between 1727 and 1711
Mass. Ave.
N St. 1600 Block

Subway Red Line
Dupont Circle, Q St. exit
(turn right from the Metro
escalator exit, walk 2
blocks east following Q
Street)

For more information please
visit our website at
www.democraticwoman.org
or e-mail us at
info@democraticwoman.org



WNDC NEWS

WOMAN'S NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC CLUB

An historic, educational, political, cultural, and social club where Democrats meet, discuss, and act upon issues of the day.
January 2010

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

This will be the last President's letter of 2009. It has been an unusual year - you have had communications from three different presidents. We strive for variety but usually restrict that to our programming. This year we unwittingly provided you with a variety of leadership styles and voices. As long as the eventual result of all these changes is positive, the transitions will probably be forgiven and forgotten.

Events at the club continue to move at an accelerated pace. Since my last communication with you we have signed an engagement letter with White & Case LLP, a reputable law firm who will represent WNDC in all proceedings related to tax issues as well as its' restructuring plans. These services will be provided on a pro bono basis. We have moved the mortgage application process a step further with one bank as we communicate with other entities to enable us to make informed and advantageous decisions. Asia Society has forwarded signed copies of the lease contract between them and the WNDC. We are in the process of vetting the entire transaction from our vantage point prior to making a firm commitment.

Our energized and motivated members continue to exhibit generosity both in monetary terms and in the time and commitment they are willing to offer their beloved institution. One past president's son is helping us reduce our energy bills with innovative strategies, at no cost to us. Almost half a dozen pledges have come in from current members willing to sponsor new members for a year. There is a big push to encourage departing members to rejoin at no additional application fee cost. The Board has approved the formation of an Honorary Board to sign on political and cultural luminaries to enhance our standing and

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see **PRESIDENT'S LETTER** page 2

For those members (and those members only) who don't list an email address with the Club, and who weren't able to attend the Dec. 10th Semi-Annual meeting, we have enclosed a separate copy of the President's message from that meeting. **See insert.**

See page 3 for list of upcoming events.

Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg to Receive WNDC's Highest Award at an Evening Champagne Reception, May 4, 2010

The prestigious Eleanor Award was established in 1998 to honor those persons who best represent the ideals Eleanor Roosevelt fought for and represented all her life.



Be a part of the Club and an eyewitness to history as we honor the woman who has achieved the highest level in the Judiciary branch of government - Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

In accepting this award, Justice Ginsburg joins the two women who achieved the highest level in the Executive and Legislative branches of government; Hillary Rodham Clinton, Secretary of State, and Nancy Pelosi, Speaker of the House of Representatives, in being so honored.

The Award Committee is planning an elegant champagne evening reception with testimonials to the Justice. Every member of the Woman's National Democratic Club will receive an invitation with the opportunity to purchase up to two tickets per member. At \$50 a ticket, we will have more demand for tickets than we can fit into our Clubhouse under the DC Fire Code restrictions. Therefore, ticket issuance will be on a first come, first served basis. **Phone reservations will not be honored.** The invitations will be mailed in early February. Please watch your mailbox.

Anyone interested in volunteering for the event, please contact Rosemary Monagan at ramonagan@earthlink.net.

We hope to see you at this exciting, historic event.

- Eleanor Award Committee
- Marlene Connors, Chair
- Virginia Lawton
- Rosemary Monagan
- Carol Baer Mott
- Abigail Nichols

image, starting with our Eleanor Award honorees.

A new feature of this emergency period has been a spate of members' letters. An excerpt follows, from a member who is always traveling: "... My reasons for staying on with the Club are both sentimental and philosophical. I do believe in the club, which has that wonderful building, such interesting and thoughtful members and does terrific, timely programs (despite the fact that I miss most of them). And, I keep thinking that some day...when and if I ever do retire, it would be fun to be more active."

In terms of programming this has been a stellar year. We have had politicians, policy-makers, writers, academics, artists, performances and more. Just a glimpse of our gallery of stars shows programs featuring Governor Tim Kaine, David Boies, David Kilcullen, Evan Thomas, Abigail Trafford, Ahmed Rashid, Bob Shogan, Cokie Roberts, Robert Samuelson, David Sangar, Congresswoman Barbara Lee, Liaquat Ahamed, Barton Gellman, Senator Lugar, Governor Howard Dean, Richard Haas, Ambassador Princeton Lyman, Jim Lehrer of PBS's NewsHour, ... the list goes on.

We have big plans for the coming new year. We already have on our books an afternoon with Lisa Jackson, Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency; Judith Martin, aka "Miss Manners" talking about her new book; syndicated columnist and TV commentator, Mark

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Shields, and eminent journalist Marvin Kalb, all are coming to share their insights with us in January.

There are symposia and conferences being organized and on May 4th, we honor Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg as the recipient of our prestigious Eleanor Award.

We ended the year with an elegant holiday party on December 18th. The spirit at the event was festive, upbeat and positive. There is a strong feeling of commitment and renewed energy which needs to be nurtured. As long as we maintain our focus, make informed decisions and keep making contributions to the WNDC, we will ensure its future success and prosperity. We have been in challenging situations before but our resilience has not wavered. We will overcome, this time as well. A very happy 2010 to you and your families.

Warmest regards

Nuchhi Currier

In Memoriam

The entire membership of the Woman's National Democratic Club mourns the untimely demise of one of its most beloved members. Joyce I. Miller's passing away on December 13, 2009, left us with a sense of profound sadness. She is most remembered for her infectious wit, humor and high spirits. Her *joi de vivre* was legendary. During the course of her long career at the WNDC she served on many committees and made valuable contributions in many areas. One of the most endearing ones were her poems. Her perspicacity and wisdom found expression in word and rhyme as they captured the essence of her subject. In losing Joyce, her friends and colleagues at the Club have lost a vital resource – a wellspring of positive action and joyful disposition. Our thoughts are with her family who are enduring this loss. In January we will all get together, friends, colleagues and family, at the Woman's National Democratic Club to celebrate the life of one who gave so much to this institution. After the New Year's, an exact date will be determined.

JFK's Magnificent Journey

Paintings by
ALEN J. SALERIAN

There are still a few days left to see this exhibit that honors and preserves the memory and accomplishments of our nation's 35th President, John Fitzgerald Kennedy.



The exhibit will be in the Ballroom at the Club through Wednesday January 13, 2010.

Visually riveting, explosive echoes from our modern past... fitting memorial to JFK's brilliance.

- James H. Fetzer, JFK Scholar & Philosopher



Upcoming WNDC Events

Thursday, January 14
The Honorable Lisa Jackson
LUNCHEON
The New EPA
A Breath of Fresh Air



The Honorable **Lisa P. Jackson** leads EPA's efforts to protect the health and environment for all Americans. She and a staff of more than 17,000 professionals are working across the nation to usher in a green economy, address health threats from toxins and pollution, and renew public trust in EPA's work. She has promised that all of EPA's efforts will follow the best science, adhere to the rule of law, and be implemented with unparalleled transparency.

Jackson is the first African-American to serve as the head of the EPA. She has made it a priority to focus on vulnerable groups including children, the elderly, and low-income communities that are particularly susceptible to environmental and health threats. In addressing these and other issues, she has promised all stakeholders a place at the decision-making table.

Before becoming EPA's Administrator, Jackson served as Chief of Staff to New Jersey Governor Jon S. Corzine and Commissioner of the state's Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).

Jackson is a summa cum laude graduate of Tulane University and earned a master's degree in chemical engineering from Princeton University. She was born in Pennsylvania and was raised in New Orleans.

Time: Bar opens at 11:30 a.m. Lunch 12:15 p.m.
Price: Members \$25, Nonmembers \$30.

Tuesday, January 19
Judith "Miss Manners" and her daughter, Jacobina
Miss Manner's Guide to a Surprisingly Dignified Wedding



In a refreshing take on both modern weddings, and those depicted in Shakespeare's *The Tempest*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, and *Romeo and Juliet*, **Judith Martin** and her co-author daughter will amuse and delight us all as they describe their joint effort. Best known for her syndicated column, Ms. Martin has published other best-selling guides such as "Excruciatingly Correct Behavior, and Raising Perfect Children, as well as winning the coveted National Humanities Medal.

The Club has been privileged to hear Ms. Martin before on a number of occasions, and we are happy to welcome the **English-Speaking Union** and the **Shakespeare Guild** as co-sponsors of this event.

Time: Bar opens at 11:30 a.m. Lunch 12:15 p.m.
Price: Members \$25, Nonmembers \$30.

Thursday, January 21
Mark Shields
LUNCHEON
The Wit and Wisdom of Mark Shields



With a career spanning nine presidents, **Mark Shields** is one of the most respected analysts in Washington, a pundit whose experience and encyclopedic knowledge of politics combine for one of the most trusted bylines in journalism. For nearly two decades, Shields has been one-half of the political analysis team on the PBS *NewsHour* and regularly appears on PBS' Friday night program *Inside Washington*. For 17 years he served as moderator of CNN's weekly political discussion show, *The Capital Gang*. With wit, whimsy and wisdom, he will share first-hand accounts and impressions of the current state of Washington politics and present them against the backdrop of political history — and delight you with his analysis of today's headlines.

Time: Bar opens at 11:30 a.m. Lunch 12:15 p.m.
Price: Members \$25, Nonmembers \$30.

Thursday, January 28
Marvin Kalb
LUNCHEON
Grading Obama's First Year



Distinguished journalist and scholar **Marvin Kalb** will review President Obama's record in office, as he moves into the second year of his Administration. Kalb will explain why at present he would give Obama a B+ on his domestic policy and a B on his foreign policy. He will also offer his insights on the vagaries of Obama's popularity as measured by public opinion polls and the role the press has played in shaping that opinion.

Marvin Kalb is a Senior Fellow at the Shorenstein Center for the Press, Politics and Public Policy, John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University. He also serves as a Lecturer in Public Policy, and Faculty Chair for the School's Washington Programs. Over a distinguished 30-year career as Chief Diplomatic Correspondent for CBS News and NBC News, and as moderator of *Meet the Press*, Mr. Kalb has received numerous awards for excellence in diplomatic reporting, including two Peabody Prizes from the University of Georgia, the DuPont Prize from Columbia University, and more than a half-dozen Overseas Press Club awards.

Time: Bar opens at 11:30 a.m. Lunch 12:15 p.m.
Price: Members \$25, Nonmembers \$30.